

REMARKS

Claims 81- 87 are pending. Claims 81 and 85 are amended to address objections raised by the Examiner and to put the claims in order for allowance. None of the amendments constitutes new matter.

1. The Amended Claims Are Definite

Claims 81-87 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, as indefinite, the Examiner contending that the preambles of claims 81 and 85 are incongruent with the recited steps and conclusions. In particular, the Examiner notes that the preambles of claims 81 and 85 recite “a Hh-dependent modulator of motor neuron differentiation” whereas the method steps identify a modulator of Hh-dependent neural differentiation, and the subject matter of these phrases is not the same.

Applicants have amended the preambles of claims 81 and 85 to recite “a modulator of Hh-dependent neural differentiation”, thereby obviating the basis for the rejection, and request that the rejection be removed.

2. The Amended Claims Satisfy The Written Description Requirement

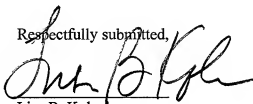
Claims 81-87 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph, as failing to satisfy the written description requirement. In particular, the Examiner objects that reference to “a factor that directly effects signalling within a Hh signalling pathway” constitutes new matter and suffers from insufficient written description. The Examiner suggests amending step (c) of the claims to recite “activating a Hh signalling pathway.”

Applicants have amended the claims in accordance with the Examiner's suggestion, so that the rejection should be removed.

3. **Conclusion**

For all the foregoing reasons, the amended claims are in condition for allowance and the rejections should be removed.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Lisa B. Kole', written over a horizontal line.

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